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June 30, 2005

BY HAND

Civil Clerk
United States District Court
for the District of Massachusetts
U. S. Courthouse
1 Courthouse Way
Boston, MA 02210

SC

Re:

Crystal A. Atherton and Robert W. Atherton v. City of Beverly, William F. Scanlon, Jr., in his official and individual capacity and John Dunn, in his official and individual capacity

United States District Court Docket No. 05-11323MLW

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter, please find the certified state court docket entiries in this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

ERC/man

Enc.

cc:

Mayor (w/enc.)

John Dunn (w/o enc.) Assistant City Solicitor Jordan Shapiro, Esq.

255204/METG/0580

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Case 1:05-cv-11323-MLW Document 3 Filed 06/30/2005 Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ESSEX SUPERIOR COURT Case Summary **Civil Docket**

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ESCV2005-00654 Atherton et al v Beverly et al

File Date	04/25/2005	Status	Disposed: transfered to other court (dtrans)		
Status Date	06/28/2005	Session	A - Civil-CtRm 2 -rear (Salem)		
Origin	1	Case Type	B22 - Employment Discrimination		
Lead Case Track F					
Sancias	07/24/2005	Answer	00/22/2005	Pula42/49/20 00/22/2005	

Service	07/24/2005	Answer	09/22/2005	Rule12/19/20	09/22/2005
Rule 15	09/22/2005	Discovery	02/19/2006	Rule 56	03/21/2006
Final PTC	04/20/2006	Disposition	06/19/2006	Jury Trial	Yes

Plaintiff

Crystal A Atherton Active 04/25/2005

Private Counsel 454240

Jordan L Shapiro Shapiro & Hender 640 Main Street Malden, MA 02148 Phone: 781-324-5200 Active 04/25/2005 Notify

Plaintiff

Robert W Atherton Active 04/25/2005

Defendant

City of Beverly Served: 06/09/2005

Served (answr pending) 06/09/2005

Defendant

William F Scanlon in his official and individual capacity Served: 06/09/2005 Served (answr pending) 06/09/2005

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Case 1:05-cv-11323-MLW Document 3 Filed 06/30/2005 Page 3 of 55 Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ESSEX SUPERIOR COURT Case Summary Civil Docket

06/28/2005 02:36 PM

ESCV2005-00654 Atherton et al v Beverly et al

Defendant John Dunn in his official and individual capacity Served: 06/09/2005 Served (answr pending) 06/09/2005	

Date	Paper	Text
04/25/2005	1.0	Complaint & civil action cover sheet filed
04/25/2005		Origin 1, Type B22, Track F.
06/15/2005	2.0	SERVICE RETURNED (summons): John Dunn in his official and individual
		capacity, service made on June 09, 2005 to counsel
06/15/2005	3.0	SERVICE RETURNED (summons): William F Scanlon in his official and
		individual capacity, service made on June 09, 2005 to counsel
06/15/2005	4.0	SERVICE RETURNED (summons): City of Beverly, service made on June 09,
		2005 to counsel
06/28/2005	5.0	Copy of Petition for Removal to the United States District Court
		filed by City of Beverly, William F Scanlon in his official and
		individual capacity, John Dunn in his official and individual capacity
06/28/2005	6.0	Case REMOVED this date to US District Court of Massachusetts

MAS-20041213

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

CRYSTAL A. ATHERTON and ROBERT W. ATHERTON Plaintiffs,

v.

CITY OF BEVERLY, WILLIAM F. SCANLON, JR., in his official and individual capacity and JOHN DUNN, in his official and individual capacity Defendants.

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

This is a Complaint for damages, injunctive relief, declaratory judgment, costs, attorney fees arising out of Defendants' failure to comply with its own ordinances and personnel regulations regarding removal of Plaintiff Crystal Atherton as a secretary, for the civil rights violations caused by Defendants' conduct and by Defendants' violations of various statutes involving the payment of accrued benefits.

PARTIES

- 1. The Plaintiff, Crystal A. Atherton, is an individual residing at 61 Conant Street, Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts.
- 2. The Plaintiff, Robert W. Atherton, is an individual residing at 61 Conant Street, Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts.
- 3. The Defendant, City of Beverly, is a municipal corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with offices located at 191 Cabot Street, Beverly,

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- Essex County, Massachusetts.
- 4. The Defendant, William F. Scanlon, Jr., in his individual capacity as well as his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Beverly, has an office located at 191 Cabot Street, Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts.
- 5. The Defendant, John Dunn, in his individual capacity as well as his official capacity as Finance Director of the City of Beverly, has an office located at 191 Cabot Street, Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts.

GENERAL FACTS

- 6. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was a seventeen year employee of the City of Beverly who was terminated on or about January 5, 2004. At the time of her termination, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was 66 years old.
- 7. During her seventeen year tenure as a City of Beverly employee, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, served in several positions, including the law department paralegal and assistant to the Purchasing Director.
- 8. In October of 2002, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was assigned to the Mayor's office, by
 Defendant William Scanlon's predecessor, then Mayor Thomas Crean. During this time
 Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was also the Clerk to the City of Beverly License Board.
- 9. By letter dated December 17, 2003, the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was notified by the Defendant, (then Mayor Elect) William Scanlon, that it was his intention to remove her from her position as secretary to the Mayor effective January 5, 2004 and thereby requested her immediate resignation. A copy of Defendant Scanlon's letter requesting

her resignation is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

- 10. In response, by letter dated December 31, 2003, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, informed the Defendant, William Scanlon, that she did not wish to leave her employment with the City of Beverly and asked for re-assignment to another position in a different department as an employee for the City of Beverly. A copy of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's reply is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 11. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, never received a written reply to her request to be reassigned to another department within the City of Beverly.
- 12. On January 5, 2004, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, received another letter from the defendant, Mayor William Scanlon, formally removing her from the positions of the Mayor's secretary and as Clerk to the Beverly License Board effective immediately. A copy of Defendant Scanlon's formal letter of removal is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 13. According to the letter of termination, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was fired by the newly elected Mayor because of a desire to fill the secretarial position "with a person of my own choosing and in whom I have faith and confidence will perform the duties of such position[s] in an exemplary fashion."
- 14. After her termination, Complainant properly requested a hearing in accordance with Section 8-15 of the City of Beverly Home Rule Charter. A copy of the Letter from Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, to Defendant Scanlon dated January 12, 2004 requesting the hearing under Section 8-15 of the Home Rule Charter is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.
- 15. Despite the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's request, no hearing was conducted in violation of Section 8-15 of the Home Rule Charter. A copy of Section 8-15 of the City of Beverly

- Home Charter is attached hereto as Exhibit 5.
- 16. Despite the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's repeated requests to be transferred to another department and continue her employment, neither Defendant Scanlon nor the Defendant City of Beverly offered Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, a position with the City of Beverly.
- 17. On January 2, 2004, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, received her last paycheck, which indicated accrued sick time of 1695.75 hours, three personal days and 21.50 hours of unused vacation time. A copy of the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's last paycheck with the City of Beverly is attached hereto as Exhibit 6.
- 18. In or around September of 2004, after repeated attempts to secure further employment with the City of Beverly, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, retired from the City of Beverly.
- 19. If Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, had completed another three years as an employee for the City of Beverly, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, would have been entitled to take a substantial pension. However, due to the fact she was lacking the sufficient number of years in service as aforementioned, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's pension was considerably less that what she would have been entitled to receive after twenty years of employment.
- 20. During her various capacities on behalf of the City of Beverly, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was never informed that any particular political association, affiliation, or patronage would be a requirement for performance of her job.
- 21. When Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, accepted employment with Defendant City of Beverly, and during her tenure as Secretary to the Mayor, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, understood that she would continue to be employed by the City of Beverly as long as her actual job performance was satisfactory.

- 22. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, says that Charter provision 8-15 afforded her a right to a hearing and not to be discharged without cause.
- Throughout her employment tenure, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, performed her job duties competently and satisfactorily.
- 24. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was never given any warnings by the Defendant or its officers, agents, or employees that her work performance was less than satisfactory in any way.
- 25. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was not discharged because of unsatisfactory job performance.
- 26. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was not discharged because of any specific job-related action that she had taken.
- 27. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was not discharged because of any specific job-related omission that she had failed to take.
- 28. Prior to being discharged, and after her discharge, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was: (a) not afforded an opportunity to be heard to contest her discharge; (b) not afforded a hearing before an impartial tribunal in which to contest or challenge her discharge; (c) not afforded any notice of hearing to contest her discharge; (d) not afforded any opportunity to confront and cross-examine any accusers and witnesses against her; (e) not afforded any opportunity to present evidence in her own behalf to contest her discharge; (f) given no identification or specification of any charges against her; (g) provided no written findings of fact based on substantial evidence relating to her discharge; (h) given no specific grounds for her discharge; (I) given no written statement or statements setting forth the specific acts or omissions that are the reasons for her discharge.
- 29. Among other written charter provisions and ordinances, the Defendant, City of Beverly

- duly adopted Section 8-15 titled Removals and Suspensions, which, in pertinent part, requires that "[a]ny employee of the city, not a city officer or a department head ... whether appointed for a fixed or an indefinite term, may be suspended or removed from the office by the appointing authority for good cause."
- 30. Section 8-15 provides that within five days of deliver of the intent to remove "the officer or employee of the city may request a public hearing at which such person may be represented by counsel, shall be entitled to present evidence, call witnesses and to question any witness appearing at the hearing."
- 31. Section 8-15 further provides that the "[f] ailure of the appointing authority to take any action within the time periods as stated in this section shall be deemed to be a rescission of the original notice and the officer or employee shall, forthwith, be reinstated."

 (Emphasis added).
- 32. Section 3-313 of the City of Beverly Administrative Code, which was never adopted by the City of Beverly City Council, but later adopted as an ordinance in substantially the same form states the following:
 - (a). Establishment There shall be a Confidential/Secretary/Administrative

 Assistant to the Mayor.
 - (b). Mode of Appointment, Term of Office The Confidential

 Secretary/Administrative Assistant to the Mayor shall be appointed by and responsible only to the Mayor. The Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

(emphasis in original). A copy of the Section 3-313 of the Administrative Code is

attached hereto as Exhibit 7.

- 33. Nowhere in Section 3-313 is the Mayor exempted from the requirements contained within Section 8-15 of the Beverly Home Rule Charter requiring that a hearing be held and that the failure of the appointing authority to abide by the hearing requirement contained therein would require reinstatement.
- 34. By the adoption of said personnel policies and ordinances, through the mutual understanding of the parties, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, had a legitimate expectation of continued employment entitling her to due process.
- 35. During the most recent election prior to her termination from employment on behalf of the City of Beverly, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was a vocal and active supporter of the then incumbent, Mayor Thomas M. Crean.
- 36. The City of Beverly and present Mayor William Scanlon were familiar with Plaintiff,
 Crystal Atherton's vocal support and campaigning on behalf of Mayor Crean.
- 37. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was discharged without just cause and for trivial reasons.
- 38. Defendants, City of Beverly and Scanlon attempted to coerce Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, into resigning from her employment, by threatening her with discharge if she refused to resign.
- 39. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was discharged by Defendants, City of Beverly and Scanlon on the basis of her political beliefs, registration, and/or affiliation.
- 40. Defendant has established and, in terminating Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has implemented employment policies and practices which are arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory, and have no rational basis; or, in the alternative, were implemented to

- avoid paying her full retirement benefits due her in three years.
- 41. The intent, motive, purpose, and effect of Defendants', City of Beverly and Scanlon, conduct was to discriminate on the basis of political beliefs, registration, and/or affiliation.
- 42. Defendants have subjected Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, to their unlawful employment policies and practices in a manner depriving Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, of her rights and privileges secured by the United States Constitution, Massachusetts Declaration of Rights, and the laws of the United States and Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 43. But for her discharge by the Defendants, City of Beverly and Scanlon, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, would have continued her employment with Defendant, City of Beverly.

 Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, was happy and content with her employment for the City of Beverly and but for said Defendants' conduct would have completed a career in government service for the City of Beverly.
- 44. The conduct of both Defendants, City of Beverly and Scanlon, as described herein was committed intentionally, willfully, maliciously, recklessly, and with gross disregard of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's rights.
- 45. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants', City of Beverly and Scanlon, conduct,
 Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has been and is presently suffering serious mental and
 emotional distress, anxiety, ridicule, humiliation, indignity, loss of esteem,
 embarrassment, loss of civil and constitutional rights, loss of wages and fringe benefits,
 and loss of future employment prospects.
- 46. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has no remedy at law sufficient to redress the deprivation of

her previously mentioned rights. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, will suffer irreparable harm unless Defendants are enjoined by this court. The deprivation of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's rights is ongoing and can be redressed only by the granting of injunctive relief hereinafter prayed for.

COUNT I

(CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 47. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through fortysix as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 48. Defendants City of Beverly and William Scanlon, acting under color of authority vested in them by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have terminated Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's employment without due process of law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Title 42 USCA § 1983 as well as the ordinances of the City of Beverly. This claim is predicated on both procedural and substantive due process. This claim arises both directly under Title 42 USCA § 1983 and under the United States Constitution.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of compensatory or actual damages, punitive damages, declaratory judgment, permanent injunctive relief, reinstatement. backpay, frontpay and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

COUNT II

(CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 49. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through fortyeight as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 50. Defendants have denied Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, equal protection of the law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Title 42 USCA § 1983. This claim arises both directly under 42 USCA § 1983 and under the United States Constitution.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of compensatory or actual damages, punitive damages, declaratory judgment, permanent injunctive relief, reinstatement, frontpay, backpay, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

COUNT III

(CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 51. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through fifty as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 52. Defendants, City of Beverly and William Scanlon have terminated Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's employment in violation of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and Title 42 USCA § 1983. This claim arises both directly under 42 USCA §1983 and under the United States Constitution.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of compensatory or actual damages, punitive damages, declaratory judgment, permanent injunctive relief, reinstatement, frontpay, backpay, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

COUNT IV

(CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 53. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through fiftytwo as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 54. Defendants have terminated Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's employment in violation of Article 16 of the Declaration of Rights, as amended by art. 77 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of compensatory or actual damages, punitive damages, declaratory judgment, permanent injunctive relief, reinstatement, frontpay, backpay, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

COUNT V

(CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 55. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through fiftyfour as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 56. By requesting Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's resignation, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, believes and avers that Defendant Scanlon, and the City of Beverly, threatened, intimidated and coerced Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, for the exercise of the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's state and federal constitutional rights.
- 57. By terminating Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, after she had requested a hearing, Plaintiff,

- Crystal Atherton, believes and avers that Defendant Scanlon, and the City of Beverly, threatened, intimidated and coerced Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, for the exercise of the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's state and federal constitutional rights.
- 58. As a result of the wrongful acts as alleged herein, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has sustained severe and substantial damages and injuries in violations of her rights under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, 42 U.S.C. § 1985, 42 U.S.C. 1986 and G.L. c. 12, § 11I.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of compensatory or actual damages, punitive damages, declaratory judgment, permanent injunctive relief, reinstatement, frontpay, backpay, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

COUNT VI

(CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 59. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through fiftyeight as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 60. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, believes and therefore avers that the treatment towards her by the City of Beverly and William Scanlon, which includes, but is not limited to, the denial of a required hearing and termination, due to Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's exercise of her rights under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and Part I, Article 16 of the Massachusetts Constitution is in retaliation for the exercise of said rights as alleged herein.
- 61. As a result of the wrongful acts as alleged herein, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has

sustained severe and substantial damages and injuries in violations of her rights under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, 42 U.S.C. § 1985, and 42 U.S.C. 1986.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of compensatory or actual damages, punitive damages, declaratory judgment, permanent injunctive relief, reinstatement, frontpay, backpay, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

COUNT VII

(Mass. G.L. c. 151B - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON) (UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF AGE AND GENDER)

- 62. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through sixtyone as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 63. Defendant City of Beverly is an employer within the meaning of G.L. c. 151B.
- 64. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, filed a timely Charge of Discrimination with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (hereinafter "MCAD") on the basis of her age and gender (female). A copy of the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's timely filed Charge of Discrimination in this matter is attached hereto as Exhibit 8.
- On or about October 17, 2004, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws, Chapter 151B, Section 9, submitted a Motion to Withdraw Her Claim From the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination For the Purpose of Filing Her Claim in the Superior Court, and on October 22, 2004, the MCAD allowed said motion. A copy of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's Dismissal and Notification of Rights is attached hereto as Exhibit 9. On October 22, 2004, the MCAD permitted the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, to

- remove her complaint to the Superior Court.
- At all times relevant hereto the Defendant City of Beverly was the employer and the Defendant William Scanlon as chief executive officer and supervisor to the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, and had an obligation to control and supervise its employees, agents and officers.
- 67. By their conduct as stated herein Defendants, permitted a pattern and practice of unlawful discrimination by applying their policies and procedures in a disparate manner, in violation of Mass. Gen. Laws c. 151B, § 4.
- 68. As a result of Defendants' discriminatory actions noted herein, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has suffered harm, including but not limited to the loss of her employment and employment related benefits.
- 69. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has exhausted all administrative remedies prior to bringing this action.
- 70. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' actions by and through the City of Beverly and William Scanlon, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has suffered harm and damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, demands judgment against Defendants, City of Beverly and William Scanlon, for the full and fair value of damages, punitive damages, together with attorney's fees, interest, costs, and any other relief the Court deems just and appropriate.

COUNT VIII

(Mass. G.L. c. 151B - CITY OF BEVERLY AND WILLIAM SCANLON) (UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF AGE AND GENDER)

- The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through sixty-71. nine as if each is separately set forth herein.
- On or about December 17, 2003, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, Atherton sought a hearing 72. pursuant to Section 8-15 to discuss her removal from the position of Secretary to the Mayor.
- Though the hearing contemplated by Section 8-15 of the Beverly Home Rule Charter, is a 73. benefit and term of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's employment, both William Scanlon and the City of Beverly refused to hold a hearing as required by Section 8-15.
- 74. As a result of Defendants', William Scanlon and City of Beverly, discriminatory actions as stated herein, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has suffered harm, including but not limited to the loss of her employment and other employment related benefits.
- 75. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has exhausted all administrative remedies prior to bringing this action.
- 76. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' actions, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton. has suffered harm and damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, demands judgment against the Defendants, City of Beverly and William Scanlon, for the full and fair value of damages, punitive damages, together with attorney's fees, interest, costs, and any other relief the Court deems just and

Case 1:05-cv-11323-MLW

COUNT IX

(G.L. c. 249, § 5 - ACTION IN THE NATURE OF **MANDAMUS AGAINST ALL NAMED DEFENDANTS)**

- 77. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through sevetysix as if each is separately set forth herein.
- By enactment of the aforesaid provisions of the Home Rule Charter, and specifically by 78. the City of Beverly's adoption of a provision requiring a hearing and reinstatement if the procedure is not followed, the named Defendants have no discretion but to reinstate the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, as the Defendants have not complied with said provisions.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, demands judgment against the Defendants, City of Beverly, William Scanlon and John Dunn and for an order in the nature of mandamus for reinstatement in a position as Secretary to the Mayor of the City or a similar or equivalent position, with the previous benefits, salary, terms and conditions, frontpay, backpay and interest reinstated.

COUNT X

(VIOLATION OF WAGE ACT, G.L. c. 149, § 148

AGAINST ALL NAMED DEFENDANTS)

- 79. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through seventy-seven as if each is separately set forth herein.
- As an employee of the City of Beverly, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, accrued sick leave 80.

- benefits at the rate of two days per month during her tenure as secretary and 1.25 days per month as the Assistant to the Purchasing Director.
- 81. Upon Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's termination, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has accumulated sick leave time in the amount of 1695.75 hours or 242.25 days, one hundred of which Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is entitled as sick leave buy back at the rate of \$194.12 per day for a total of \$19,412.00. By ordinance, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is also entitled to three full weeks of vacation pay at the rate of \$194.12 for a total of \$2,911.80 and three unused personal days for \$582.36.
- 82. At the time of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's assignment to the Mayor's office on or about September 30, 2002, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, worked approximately five hours extra compensatory time per week from September 30, 2002 through January 23, 2003 for a total of 59 hours. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, used fourteen hours of the compensatory time prior to her termination entitling her to 45 hours at the rate of \$194.12 per day for a total of \$1,116.19.
- 83. In total, based on the foregoing, Defendant, City of Beverly owes the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, \$24,022.35 for accrued vacation days, personal days and sick leave buyback.
- 84. On or about September 7, 2004, after her formal retirement from the City of Beverly,
 Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, demanded the payments stated hereinabove. A copy of the
 Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's September 7, 2004 letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 8.
- 85. As a result of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's demand, Defendant City of Beverly by and through its Finance Director, Defendant John Dunn, on November 7, 2004, denied the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's request for sick leave buyback based upon his review of

- Section 17-47 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Beverly. A copy of the Finance Director's letter of denial dated November 7, 2004, is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.
- 86. In response to the Finance Director's letter of denial, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, filed a Non-Payment of Wage Complaint with the Office of the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, notifying the Attorney General of the City of Beverly's failure to pay the aforementioned benefits. A copy of Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton's Non-Payment of Wage Complaint filed with the Office of the Attorney General is attached hereto as Exhibit 11 (redacted to remove Crystal Atherton's Social Security number).
- 87. On or about January 14, 2005, the Office Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts declined to take enforcement action in the matter against the City of Beverly. A copy of the letter dated January 14, 2004, from the Office of the Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is attached hereto as Exhibit 12.
- 88. According to G.L. c. 149, § 150, an aggrieved employee who files a complaint with the Attorney General's office, and then waits 90 days, or sooner if the Attorney General assents, may bring a civil action for injunctive relief and damages, including treble damages for any loss of wages and other benefits.
- 89. Pursuant to G. L. c. 149, § 148 "[e]very public officer whose duty it is to pay money, approve, audit or verify pay rolls, or perform any other official act relative to payment of any public employees, shall be deemed to be an employer of such employees, and shall be responsible under this section for any failure to perform his official duty relative to the payment of their wages or salaries, unless he is prevented from performing the same through no fault on his part."

- 90. By filing the Wage Complaint Form with the Office of the Attorney General and thereafter receiving permission to commence suit, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, has complied with all of the relevant requirements contained within G.L. c. 149.
- 91. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, avers that she has been the victim of a failure to pay wages and benefits as outlined herein and perpetrated by Defendants, City of Beverly, William Scanlon and John Dunn, even though said conduct is prohibited by M.G.L. Ch. 149, § 148.
- 92. As an aggrieved employee who has complied with the relevant requirements contained within G.L. c. 149, and has waited the mandatory ninety days after the formal response of the Attorney General, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is entitled to commence this action.
- 93. Defendants' failure to timely pay all of the benefits owed to the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is a violation of G.L. c. 149 and Defendant's failure to pay said sums has caused Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, to suffer great harm.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, demands judgment against the Defendants in the sum determined by the Court and/or Jury to be due the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, together with treble damages, pursuant to this Count, with costs, interest, and reasonable attorneys fees.

COUNT XI

(DECLARATORY JUDGMENT)

- 94. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through ninetytwo as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 95. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, brings this claim for declaratory judgment under G.L. c.231A,

- 96. As stated herein, there is an actual controversy within the jurisdiction of this Court caused by the conduct of the Defendants to who neglected or failed to:
 - (A) comply with the City of Beverly's own Home Rule Charter provision requiring a hearing and reinstatement due to the failure of the appointing authority to take any action within the requisite time periods; and
 - (B) compensate Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, as required for all accrued benefits referenced herein, including sick leave buyback, vacation time, unused personal days and compensatory time as referenced above.
- 97. As stated herein, there is an actual controversy within the jurisdiction of this Court caused by the failure of the Defendants', City of Beverly and William Scanlon, to abide by its own rules, regulations and ordinances and a real dispute exists therefore between the parties which requires immediate judicial determination.
- 98. Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is required and entitled to reinstatement and compensation for sick leave buyback, vacation time, unused personal days and compensatory time in accordance with the Beverly Home Rule Charter, ordinances, administrative codes, personnel rules and regulations of the City of Beverly as aforesaid.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, requests a declaratory judgment against the Defendants, City of Beverly, William Scanlon and John Dunn, that Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is entitled to reinstatement in a position which is the same or equivalent to her former position as Secretary to the Mayor of the City of Beverly, in benefits, salary, terms and conditions, frontpay,

backpay and interest as well as a determination that the Defendants are required to compensate Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, for all unused sick leave buyback, vacation time, unused personal days and compensatory time.

COUNT X

(INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS - WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 99. The Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, incorporates by reference paragraphs one through ninetyeight as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 100. The conduct of the Defendant, William Scanlon, including, but not limited to, the refusal to afford Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, a hearing as required and by terminating the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, from her employment with the City of Beverly was conduct being done for the purpose of causing mental distress, embarrassment, and aggravation to the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton.
- 101. Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, is being caused mental distress, embarrassment and aggravation as a result of the aforementioned conduct of William Scanlon and his agents.
- 102. In the alternative, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, says that said actions by the Defendant, William Scanlon were willful, intentional, extreme and outrageous actions to cause and inflict emotional distress, aggravation, humiliation, and embarrassment to the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton.
- 103. The Defendant knew or should have known that his outrageous actions were reasonably foreseeable to cause Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, serious and substantial emotional distress, aggravation, humiliation, embarrassment, and expense.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, seeks damages for infliction of emotional distress, with costs, interest, and attorney's fees.

COUNT XI

(LOSS OF CONSORTIUM - WILLIAM SCANLON)

- 104. The Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs one through ninety-eight as if each is separately set forth herein.
- 105. As a result of the improper and unlawful conduct as alleged herein committed against the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, by Defendant William Scanlon and as a result of the severe emotional and physical distress this conduct has caused her husband, Robert Atherton to suffer and has himself suffered severe emotional and physical stress and injuries, and has suffered the loss of the care, companionship, and society of his wife, the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Robert Atherton demands judgment against the defendant William Scanlon, in such amounts as may be determined.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs pray for the following relief:

- (1) Grant the Plaintiffs, Crystal Atherton and Robert Atherton, compensatory or actual damages;
- (2) Grant the Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, punitive or exemplary damages;
- (3) Grant Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton a declaratory judgment adjudging that

 Defendants' conduct as described in this complaint constitutes a violation of the

 First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution; a violation of

- Article 16 of the Declaration of Rights, as amended by art. 77 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution; as well as the City of Beverly's own ordinances, administrative codes, personnel rules and regulations.
- (4) Issue a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants, their officers, agents.

 successors, employees, and any others acting in concert with any of them: (a) from maintaining an unconstitutional political patronage system in governmental employment policy whereby freedom of political beliefs, association, or affiliation is infringed; (b) from maintaining arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory, or otherwise unlawful employment policies and practices; (c) requiring Defendants to adopt and implement an equal-opportunity employment policy including, but not limited to, the establishment of nondiscriminatory hiring, promotion, and discharge plans designed to eliminate the effects of their discriminatory employment practices; and (d) from committing or conspiring to commit any other unlawful conduct against Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton.
- (5) Reinstate Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, to her position with an award of backpay with interest, and all other lost employment benefits such as pension and leave. In the unlikely event the Court finds that reinstatement is not feasible, Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, prays for an award of front pay and credit for duration of the front pay towards her retirement benefits.
- (6) Award Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, her reasonable attorney fees and costs pursuant to 42 USCA § 1986, 42 USCA § 1988, 42 USCA § 1983, 42 USCA § 1985, G.L. c. 151B and G.L. c. 149, § 148.

- (7) Award Plaintiff, Crystal Atherton, treble damages in accordance with G.L. c. 149, § 148 et seq.
- (8) Retain jurisdiction of this action to ensure full compliance with the law.
- (9) Award Plaintiffs, Crystal Atherton and Robert Atherton, such other and further relief that the Court deems just and proper.

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL BY JURY

DATED: April 20, 2005

Respectfully Submitted,

CRYSTAL A. ATHERTON AND ROBERT A. ATHERTON

By their Attorney,

Jordan L. Shapiro BBO#454240

Shapiro & Hender

640 Main Street

Malden, MA 02148

(781) 324-5200

24

William F. Scanlon, Jr. 5 Whitman Place Beverly, MA 01915

978-922-9699

December 17, 2003

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Crystal Atherton 61 Conant Street Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Crystal:

As you most probably are aware, the City Charter of the City of Beverly grants to the Mayor the power to remove from office all persons appointed by the Mayor. On January 5, 2004 it is my intention to remove you from your present position. Before that should become necessary, I offer you this opportunity to resign your position, with such resignation to be effective no later than 12:00 Noon, Monday, January 5, 2004. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity I request that you file your resignation with the City Clerk by the close of business Wednesday, December 31, 2003.

Should you choose to resign, please know that in so acting you are serving the citizens of Beverly by facilitating and contributing to a smooth transition of government from the present administration to the next and for that you have my thanks.

Very truly yours,

December 31, 2003

William F. Scanlon, Jr. Mayor Elect 5 Whitman Place Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Mayor Elect Scanlon:

I have received your letter dated December 17, 2003 seeking my resignation. As I told you in our telephone conversation, I do not intend to resign and do not believe I am subject to removal under the City Charter (see Section 8-15), except possibly for cause. As I also told you in our conversation, I do not have a position to resign from because I am not a city officer or a department head but rather a rank and file staff secretary—a career public servant who has served a number of administrations, including your earlier administration.

As a dedicated public servant with more than 18 years of service and an exemplary employment record, I do not think that "for cause" termination is an issue.

I have decided to take three weeks of vacation and will return to work on January 20, 2004. Having dedicated more than 18 years to the City as a loyal employee and public servant, I look forward to continuing my work for the City of Beverly and its residents.

If you wish to re-assign me to a different department or location, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Crystal A. Atherton 61 Conant Street Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 927-2943



Page 30 of 55

Case 1:05-cv-11323-MAffine confint the Fill 100 12005

City of Beverly

Massachusetts 01915

William F. Scanlon, Jr.

Executive Secretary Linda Paluzzi Giallongo

Telephone (978) 921-6000

Facsimile (978) 922-0285 January 5, 2004

Mrs. Frances Macdonald Beverly City Clerk City Hall 191 Cabot Street Beverly, MA 01915

Re: Removal of Crystal Atherton from the position as the Mayor's Confidential Secretary and Clerk to the Beverly License Board

Dear Mrs. Macdonald:

In accordance with Section 3-3 and Section 3-4 of the Beverly Home Rule Charter and Section 3-313 of the Administrative Code, I do hereby remove Crystal Atherton from the position of Mayor's Confidential Secretary. Further in accordance with Section 3-3 and Section 3-4 of the Beverly Home Rule Charter, I do hereby remove Crystal Atherton from the position of Clerk to the Beverly License Board.

The specific reason for this action is that I desire to fill these positions with a person of my own choosing and in whom I have faith and confidence will perform the duties of such positions in an exemplary fashion.

This removal is effective immediately.

Very truly yours,

William F. Scanlon, Jr.

Mayor of Beverly

WFS/lpg

Cc: Crystal Atherton by Certified Mail, Postage Prepaid

January 12, 2004

William F. Scanlon, Jr., Mayor City of Beverly 191 Cabot Street Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Mayor Scanlon:

I am in receipt of a copy of your letter dated January 5, 2004, in which you advised the City Clerk that you have removed me in accordance with Section 3-3 and 3-4 of the Beverly Home Rule Charter from the positions I have recently held in the City of Beverly.

Pursuant to Section 8-15 of the Beverly Home Rule Charter, I hereby request a public hearing and a hearing as otherwise allowed or required by law.

Very truly yours,

Crystal A. Atherton 61 Conant Street Beverly, MA 01915

SECTION 8-15: REMOVALS AND SUSPENSIONS

Any employee of the city, not a city officer or a department head (hereafter "such person") and not subject to the provisions of the civil service law, or covered by the terms of a collective bargaining agreement which provides a different method, and whether appointed for a fixed or an indefinite term, may be suspended or removed from office by the appointing authority for good cause. The term "cause" shall include, but not be limited to the following: inefficiency, insubordination, conduct unbecoming the office and incapacity, other than temporary illness.

Any such person may be suspended from office by the appointing authority if such action is deemed by the appointing authority to be necessary to protect the interests of the city. However, no suspension shall be for more than fifteen (15) days. Suspension may be coterminous with removal and shall not interfere with the rights of the officer or employee under the removal procedure given below.

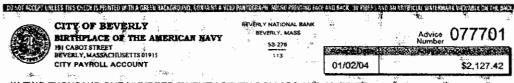
The appointing authority when removing any such person shall act in accordance with the following procedure:

- (a) A written notice of the intent to remove and a statement of the cause or causes therefore shall be delivered in hand or by certified mail to the last known address of the person sought to be removed.
- (b) Within five (5) days of delivery of such notice, the officer or employee of the city may request a public hearing at which such person may be represented by counsel, shall be entitled to present evidence, call witnesses and to question any witness appearing at the hearing.
- (c) Between one (1) and ten (10) days after the public hearing is adjourned, or if the officer or employee of the city fails to request a public hearing, between six (6) and fifteen (15) days after delivery of the notice of intent to remove, the appointing authority shall take final action, either removing such person, or, notifying such person that the notice is rescinded. Failure of the appointing authority to take any action within the time periods as stated in this section shall be deemed to be a rescission of the original notice and the officer or employee shall, forthwith, be reinstated.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as granting a right to such a hearing to a person who has been appointed for a fixed term when that term of office expires and such person is not reappointed for another term of office.



	CRYSTAL A. ATHERT	ON 010-30-1738	01/03/04		77 077701
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*** TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND 42 CENTS

121 11211 7 To The Account Of CRYSTAL A. ATHERTON 61 CONANT ST BEVERLY, MA 01915

NON-NEGOTIABLE DIRECT DEPOSIT

- a) Provide coordination and direction to the agencies within the department to insure consistent administration and the efficient delivery of services to citizens and taxpayers.
- b) Meet regularly with the Mayor to develop goals and objectives for each of the agencies within the department and to measure and evaluate the performance of functions by the agencies.
- c) Meet with the multiple member bodies which are responsible for the oversight of the agencies' programs to explain the goals and objectives set by the Mayor for each such agency.
- d) Examine the level of services provided in other communities to ensure the City of Beverly provides nothing less than an equivalent service for its citizens.
- e) Assist constituent agencies in the development of annual operating budgets and capital outlay requests.
- f) Provide assistance to the constituent multiple member bodies in personnel-related matters including appointment, discharge, evaluation and supervision.
- g) Serve as liaison between the multiple member bodies, the divisions, the City Council and the Mayor.
- h) Be responsible for the coordination and supervision of the data processing and management information systems for the city and any of its governmental offices and agencies.

SECTION 3-313. Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant to the Mayor

- (a). Establishment. There shall be a Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant to the Mayor.
- (b) Mode of Appointment, Term of Office The Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant to the Mayor shall be appointed by and responsible only to the Mayor. The Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.
- (c) Authorities and Responsibilities The Confidential Secretary/Administrative Assistant to the Mayor shall have the following duties:
- (1) Organize and summarize information and prepare it for the Mayor's review and action;
 - (2) Meet with department heads regarding day-to-day business, expediting administrative interaction between the Mayor's office and City departments;
 - (3) Serve as a liaison officer between the Mayor, the media, public interest groups, businesses and residents;

before completing the demit 05-cv-11323-MLW Docum	ent 3 Filed 06/30/2005 Page 35 of 55
ar a la companya a contrata a con	- Direction and a series
Massachusetts Commission against	
NAME (Indicate Mr., Ma., or Mre.)	HOME TELEPHONE NO. (Include Area Code
Crystal Atherton	978 927 2943
STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE AN	ID ZIP CODE COUNTY
61 Conant Street, Beverly, MA 01	
NAMED IS THE EMPLOYER, LABOR ORGANIZATION, EMP STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY WHO DISCRIMI	NATED AGAINST ME (If more than one list below.)
NO. OF E	MPLOYEES/MEMBERS TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)
City of Beverly	978 921 6000
STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE
191 Cabot STreet, City Hall,	Beverly, MA 01915 TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)
NAME	
William F. Scanlon, individually and as N STREET ADDRESS City of Reverly	1ayor 978 921 6000 CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE
STREET ADORESS City of Beverly 191 Cabot Street	Beverly, MA 01915
CAUSE OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON (Check appropriate box(es))	DATE MOST RECENT OR CONTINUING
RACE COLOR SEX RELIGION NATION	AL ORIGIN DISCRIMINATION TOOK PLACE (Month, day, year)
AGE RETALIATION OTHER(Sp	(ci(r) 12/17/03 and cont'g
THE PARTICULARS ARE(If additional space is needed, attached extra she	cs(s)):
See Continuation Sheets 1 and 2 incorporate	ted hereat by reference.
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	•
1 also want this charge filed with the EEOC.	NOTARY - (When necessary to meat State and Local Requirements)
I will advise the agencies If I change my address or telephone number and I will cooperate fully with them In the processing	I swear or affirm that I have read the above charge and that it
of my charge in accordance with their procedures.	is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.	SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT
1/5/04 legtal atherton	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS DATE (Day, month, and year)
Deta Character Party (Stangard)	

CONTINUATION SHEET - PAGE 1

On January 5, 2004, Complainant, Crystal A. Atherton, was terminated from her position as a Secretary and employee of the City of Beverly. Complainant is a 66 year old female and eighteen year employee of the City of Beverly. According to the letter of termination,

Complainant was fired by the newly elected Mayor because of a desire to fill her secretarial position "with a person of my own choosing and in whom I have faith and confidence will perform the duties of such position[s] in an exemplary fashion." (Letter of Termination dated January 5, 2004 is attached hereto as Exhibit 1).

After her termination, Complainant properly requested a hearing in accordance with Section 8-15 of the Beverly Home Charter. (Letter from Complainant to Respondent William F. Scanlon dated January 12, 2004 requesting the hearing under Section 8-15 of the Home Rule Charter is attached hereto as Exhibit 2). No hearing was conducted in violation of Section 8-15 of the Beverly Home Charter. (A copy of Section 8-15 of the Beverly Home Charter is attached hereto as Exhibit 3). This unconditional right to a hearing is a term of Complainant's employment. The Complainant believes she was denied equal terms and conditions of employment due to her Gender (Female), Age and retaliation in violation of Mass. Gen. Laws c. 151B. If Complainant completed another two years of service to the City of Beverly giving her twenty years, she would have been entitled to a vested retirement pension from the City. Instead, the termination has prevented Complainant from obtaining the time in service necessary to obtain a vested retirement pension. Therefore, the Complainant charges the Respondents, City of Beverly and William F. Scanlon, Jr., in his individual capacity with various violations of M.G.L. Ch. 151B, § 4, including but not limited to, § 4 ¶ 1, § 4 ¶ 1C, § 4 ¶ 4, § 4 ¶ 4A and § 4 ¶ 5; Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (29 U.S.C.

CONTINUATION SHEET - PAGE 2

§§ 621 - 634) and the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

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By filing the within Charge of Discrimination, the Complainant seeks emotional distress damages, front and back pay, attorney's fees, and such other damages as allowed by law.

Case 1:05-cv-11323-MLW

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Page 38 of 55

Shapiro & Hender

LAW OFFICES

EMAIL ADDRESSES:

JORDAN L. SHAPIRO DANIELLE M. HENDER ERIC L. SHWARTZ CHARLES J. FEMINO SOL H. SHAPIRO (1937-1990)

OF COUNSEL DAVID P. SHAPIRO

640 Main Street P.O. Box 392 Malden, Massachusetts 02148

> TEL. (781) 324-5200 FAX (781) 322-4712

JORDAN: JSLAWMA@AOL.COM DANIELLE: dheskwyr@gis.net

ERIC: gr8counsel@yahoo.com CHARLES: cfeminolaw@hotmail.com

DAVID: dwight24@aol.com

October 12, 2004

Mr. Nicholas Sun ¹Investigator Commonwealth of Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination One Ashburton Place, Room 601 Boston, MA 02108

Re:

Crystal Atherton v. City of Beverly and William Scanlon

MCAD Docket No. 04-BEM-02020 FFXC# 16 CA402165

Dear Mr. Sun:

10/17/04 Date

On behalf of my client, Crystal Atherton, I hereby request permission to withdraw the above-referenced matter with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, as my client wishes to file a private right of action in Superior Court.

My client has been advised that it is unlawful for any person or persons to threaten, intimidate, or harass my because she filed a complaint and that she has not been coerced into requesting this withdrawal.

yours.

Lordan L. Shaparo

10/22/04

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108 Phone: (617) 994-6000 Fax: (617) 994-6024

Date Issued: 10/22/2004

Eric R. Shwartz, Esq. Law Offices of Shapiro & Hender 640 Main Street P.O. Box 392 Malden, MA 02148

Re: Complainant(s) Crystal Atherton

Vs.

Respondent(s) City of Beverly, William F. Scanlon

MCAD Docket Number: 04BEM02020 EEOC/HUD Charge Number: 16CA402165

Dear Counsel:

The Commission has received notice that a civil action is being filed in <u>Superior Court</u> in the above-referenced matter. Pursuant to M.G.L.A. 151B, Section 9 (Chapter 478 of the Acts of 1974), the complaint before the Commission is hereby dismissed without prejudice as to the merits.

Please be advised that pursuant to 804 CMR 1.15(2), the parties are required to serve upon the Commission's General Counsel a copy of any final order obtained in court. In addition, any party filing an appeal of such final order is required to serve a notice of appeal upon the Commission's General Counsel.

Please be advised the Complainant is barred from subsequently bring a complaint on the same matter before this Commission.

Very truly yours,

Valter J. Sullivan Jr. Ommissioner

Cc:

Elizabeth R. Corbo, Esq. Kopelman and Paige, P.C 31 St. James Avenue Boston, MA 02116

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION ONE ASHBURTON PLACE BOSTON, MA 02108-1518]

Tel: (617) 994-6000

TTY: (617) 994-6196

Fax: (617) 994-6024

TO:

File

FR:

Robin Edwards-King

RE:

Crystal Atherton v. City of Beverly, William F. Scanion

MCAD#

04BEM02020

EEOC#

16CA402165 (25+ employees)

DATE:

October 22, 2004

RECOMMENDATION: CASE CLOSURE – WITHDRAWN IN ORDER TO FILE A PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION ON THE SAME MATTER IN CIVIL COURT

On July 13, 2004 Complainant filed a complaint with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and the EEOC. Complainant alleged Respondents discriminated against her on or around January 5, 2004 on the basis of Age (d.o.b. 6/13/1938), Sex and Retaliation in violation of M.G.L. c.151B§4 (1B)(1)(4) ADEA and Title VII.

On October 17, 2004 Complainant's Counsel submitted a request to withdraw this complaint from the MCAD and EEOC in order to pursue the matter as a private right of action in civil court.

The Commission finds no reason to investigate this matter further. Therefore, it is recommended that Complainant be allowed to withdraw this complaint.

Robin Edwards-King

Administrative Assistant



CITY OF BEVERLY
DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE
191 CABOT STREET
BEVERLY, MA 01915

Operating Offices: Board of Assessors Office of Collections Office of Treasury Office of Accounting

(978)921-6000 Fax (978) 021-6052

November 7, 2004

Ms. Crystal A. Atherton 61 Conant Street Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Ms. Atherton:

You have inquired as to the status of certain employee benefits to which you might be entitled resulting from the termination of your active employment with the City of Beverly.

- 1) Vacation Days
 On January 1, 2004 you accrued twenty vacation days for use in calendar 2004.
 You also brought forward ten days (the maximum) from calendar 2003, giving you thirty days to use in 2004. On January 2, 2004 you received payment for fifteen days in addition to your regular weekly pay. Your unused vacation accrual then is fifteen days and you are due a payment in the gross amount of \$2,599.77.
- Personal Days
 On January 1, 2004 you accrued three personal days and are due a payment in the gross amount of \$519.95.
- 3) Longevity and Other Beneficial Payments
 On December 2003 you received a \$500 payment for your Fiscal 2003 longevity
 and on December 19, 2003 you received a \$693.28 payment representing four
 days of Wellness Incentive for Fiscal 2003. I am not aware of any other
 beneficial payment to which you might be entitled.
- 3) Sick Leave Buyback After review of Section 17-47 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Beverly and also of relevant language in various bargaining unit contracts, it is my opinion that the buyback of an employee's sick time is triggered when active employment is terminated by retirement or by demise. In your case, you ceased active employment with the City on January 2, 2004 and did not retire until September.

9, 2004. The elapsed time period is simply too long to say that employment was terminated by retirement.

According to the above then you are entitled to a payment in the gross amount of \$3,293.05. We will produce such payment through the payroll system, which will subject the payment to the withholding levels that were in place for you on January 2004. Please contact Carol Augulewicz to verify those withholding instructions and make any changes you may desire. Please contact me at 978-921-6000 x131 to verify when you would like to pick up the payment.

Very truly yours,

onn P. Dunn

Finance Director



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 1813
BOSTON, MA 02108
617-727-2200

Non-Payment of Wage Complaint Form

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION: Name: Crystal Atherton Soc. Sec. Address: 61 Conant Street City: Beverly State: MA Zip: 01915 Date of Birth: 6/13/38 Work Phone: Home Phone: 978-927-2943 What type of work did you perform: Secretarial EMPLOYER INFORMATION: (complaint will not be accepted unless this section is completed.) Company Name: City of Beverly Address: 191 Cabot Street City: Beverly State: MA Zip: 01915 Phone: 978-921-6000 Total number of employees in company: 700+ President/Owner Name: William Scanion Title: Mayor Local Manager Name: Town where work was performed: Beverly, MA WAGE/BENEFIT INFORMATION: Date of Hire: 2/13/1987 Were you discharged? Yes Date of discharge: 1/5/2004 Did you leave? Date: Reason for leaving: If you left, did you make a personal demand for this money? Yes If yes, what was the response of the employer: See attached letter from John Dunn, Financial Dir. Rate of Pay: \$ 194.12 per (hour/week): day Unpaid Wages:

Case 1:05-cv-11323-MLW Document 3 Filed 06/30/2005 Page 44 of 55

What dates did you work for the money which you claim you are owed:	
From: 2/3/1987 to 1/20/04 Total amount owed: \$ 24,022.35	_
Have you signed a contract as a consultant or independent contractor? No. 640	Main St.
Do you have an attorney representing you in this matter? Yes, Jordan L. Shapiro Mal	
Have you taken any other action against your employer in this matter? No formal action	date.
If yes, please explain:	
Are you wiling to fully cooperate with the Attorney General's Office, which may include appearing in court?	
EXPLAIN IN DETAIL the facts relating to why you were not paid or why you are filing this complaint. If your complaint involves vacation pay, briefly explain how you earned vacation time (e.g. one week per year, one week after one year, monthly accrual, etc.)	
Please see attached.	-
	-
	-
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	-
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF THIS IS A TRUE STATEMENT OF THE FACTS RELATING TO MY COMPLAINT.	
Signature: Cuptal a atherton Date: Nov. 24,20	04
Print Name: CRYSTAL A. Atherton	
Please attach conies of any supporting information (a.g. pay stube, amployment	

Please attach copies of any supporting information (e.g. pay stubs, employment policy, etc...). Important: send only copies, save the originals for your records.

Crystal A. Atherton - Non-Payment of Wage Complaint Form (continuation page)

As an employee of the City of Beverly, I accrued sick leave benefits at the rate of 2 days per month during my employment as a secretary (as required by ordinance) and 1.25 days per month as the Assistant to the Purchasing Director (determined by union contract). Upon my termination, I had accumulated sick leave time in the amount of 1695.75 hours or 242.25 days, 100 days of which I am entitled as sick leave buy back at the rate of \$194.12 per day for a total of \$19,412.00. By ordinance, I am also entitled to three weeks of vacation pay at the rate of \$194.12 for a total of \$2,911.80 and three unused personal days for \$582.36.

Finally, at the time of my assignment to the Mayor's office on September 30, 2002, I worked approximately five hours extra compensatory time per week from September 30, 2002 through January 23, 2003 for a total of 59 hours. Since I used 14 hours of the compensatory time prior to my termination, I am therefore entitled to 45 hours at the rate of \$194.12 (per day) for a total of \$1,116.19.

In total, the City of Beverly owes me \$24,022.35.



CITY OF BEVERLY DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE 191 CABOT STREET BEVERLY, MA 01915

Operating Offices: Board of Assessors Office of Collections Office of Treasury Office of Accounting

(978)921-6000 Fax (978) 021-6052

November 7, 2004

Ms. Crystal A. Atherton 61 Conant Street Beverly, MA 01915

Dear Ms. Atherton:

You have inquired as to the status of certain employee benefits to which you might be entitled resulting from the termination of your active employment with the City of Beverly.

- 1) Vacation Days
 On January 1, 2004 you accrued twenty vacation days for use in calendar 2004.
 You also brought forward ten days (the maximum) from calendar 2003, giving you thirty days to use in 2004. On January 2, 2004 you received payment for fifteen days in addition to your regular weekly pay. Your unused vacation accrual then is fifteen days and you are due a payment in the gross amount of \$2,599.77.
- Personal Days
 On January 1, 2004 you accrued three personal days and are due a payment in the gross amount of \$519.95.
- 3) Longevity and Other Beneficial Payments
 On December 2003 you received a \$500 payment for your Fiscal 2003 longevity
 and on December 19, 2003 you received a \$693.28 payment representing four
 days of Wellness Incentive for Fiscal 2003. I am not aware of any other
 beneficial payment to which you might be entitled.
- 3) Sick Leave Buyback After review of Section 17-47 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Beverly and also of relevant language in various bargaining unit contracts, it is my opinion that the buyback of an employee's sick time is triggered when active employment is terminated by retirement or by demise. In your case, you ceased active employment with the City on January 2, 2004 and did not retire until September

9, 2004. The elapsed time period is simply too long to say that employment was terminated by retirement.

According to the above then you are entitled to a payment in the gross amount of \$3,293.05. We will produce such payment through the payroll system, which will subject the payment to the withholding levels that were in place for you on January 2004. Please contact Carol Augulewicz to verify those withholding instructions and make any changes you may desire. Please contact me at 978-921-6000 x131 to verify when you would like to pick up the payment.

Very truly yours,

John P. Dunn Finance Director

Sec. 17-47. Number of sick leave days allowed per year; how credit computed; accumulation.

- (a) Compensation for sickness or other disability shall be limited to two (2) days for each month of service in the proceeding twelve (12) months, but not more than twenty (20) days in any twelve month period. Holidays and any other days not included in the normal workweek shall not be included in the computation of days allowed hereunder.
- (b) Sick leave credit will begin the first day of the month in which the employee is employed, but thereafter benefits hereunder shall be based upon continuous service since the date of original employment. If such service has not been continuous, such benefits shall be based upon continuous service since the last hiring date after the expiration of such twelve (12) months of service or employment.
- (c) Any sick leave allowed under this section may be accumulated, but such accumulation shall not exceed two hundred (200) days at any time.
- (d) Upon retirement, employees will be paid fifty (50) percent of the accrued sick days accrued as severance pay. If termination is by demise, fifty (50) percent of the accrued sick leave shall be paid to the house, next of kin, to the employee's estate, or to the employee's legally designated beneficiary.
- (e) Each employee's sick leave credits shall be posted annually by January fifteenth of each calendar year.
- (f) For purposes of this section, a day's pay shall be computed as one-fifth of an employee's base pay per week, in grade.
- (g) If a conflict exists between any current collective bargaining agreement and this section the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement will apply.
- (h) Notwithstanding the foregoing section 17-47(d), any department head of the city who is initially appointed or hired or after January 1, 1989, shall not be eligible to receive or be paid accrued sick days as provided under section 17-47(d), nor will their spouse, next of kin, estate, or legally designated beneficiary be eligible for such severance pay. (Rev. Ords. 1973, § 20-12; Ord. No. 659, 12-19-88)

Sec. 17-48. Conditions under which leaves shall not be grante

No person shall be entitled to any compensation or benefits under disability resulting in whole or in part from:

Fish or B

(1) The voluntary use of intoxicating liquor, drugs or narcotics;



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

One Ashburton Place Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1598

THOMAS F. REILLY ATTORNEY GENERAL (617) 727-2200 www.ago.state.ma.us

January 14, 2005

Eric Shwartz, Esq. Shapiro and Hender 640 Main Street P.O. Box 392 Malden, MA 02148

Re:

Crystal Atherton

Non payment of Wage Complaint against the City of Beverly

Dear Mr. Shwartz:

We have received your correspondence to this office concerning certain practices of the above-named entity. After carefully reviewing the above referenced complaint we must decline to take further enforcement action in this matter.

Unfortunately, we are frequently called on to make difficult decisions about prosecuting or enforcing the many complaints we receive each year.

I regret that we are unable to do anything further for you in this matter.

Sincerely,

Trevor Murray

Intake Supervisor

Fair Labor and Business Practices Division

(617) 727-2200

Case 1:05-cv-113 **Commwon wealthrof: Massachusetts** 5 County of Essex The Superior Court

Page 50 of 55

CIVIL DOCKET# ESCV2005-00654-A

RE: Atherton et al v Beverly et al

TO:Jordan L Shapiro, Esquire Shapiro & Hender 640 Main Street Malden, MA 02148

TRACKING ORDER - F TRACK

You are hereby notified that this case is on the **fast (F) track** as per Superior Court Standing Order 1-88. The order requires that the various stages of litigation described below must be completed not later than the deadlines indicated.

STAGES OF LITIGATION

DEADLINE

Service of process made and return filed with the Court	07/24/2005
Response to the complaint filed (also see MRCP 12)	09/22/2005
All motions under MRCP 12, 19, and 20 filed	09/22/2005
All motions under MRCP 15 filed	09/22/2005
All discovery requests and depositions completed	02/19/2006
All motions under MRCP 56 served and heard	03/21/2006
Final pre-trial conference held and firm trial date set	04/20/2006
Case disposed	06/19/2006

The final pre-trial deadline is **not the scheduled date of the conference**. You will be notified of that date at a later time.

Counsel for plaintiff must serve this tracking order on defendant before the deadline for filing return of service.

This case is assigned to session A sitting in CtRm 2 -rear (Salem) at Essex Superior Court.

Dated: 05/12/2005

Thomas H. Driscoll Jr. Clerk of the Courts BY: Judith Brennan Assistant Clerk

Location: CtRm 2 -rear (Salem) Telephone: (978) 744-5500 ext. 414

> A TRUE COPY ATTEST DEPUTY ASSISTANT CLERK

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COVER SHEET COVER SHEET COVER SHEET COVER SHEET	t 3 Filed 06/30 Superior 200 rt Départment County: Esxx		
PLAINTIFF(S) Crystal Atherton and Robert W. Atherton	TOBS NDANT(S) () of Bevoly, William F. Sanlon		
Shapes & Hender, 640 Mail Street, Mulden TH 02148	ATTORNEY (if known)		
Board of Bar Overseers number: 454240	trook designation		
Place an x in one box only: 1. F01 Original Complaint 2. F02 Removal to Sup.Ct. C.231,s.104 (Before trial) (F) 3. F03 Retransfer to Sup.Ct. C.231,s.102C (X)	track designation 4. F04 District Court Appeal c.231, s. 97 &104 (After trial) (X) 5. F05 Reactivated after rescript; relief from judgment/Order (Mass.R.Civ.P. 60) (X) 6. E10 Summary Process Appeal (X)		
TYPE OF ACTION AND TRACK DESIGNATION (See reverse side)			
CODE NO. TYPE OF ACTION (specify) TRACK	IS THIS A JURY CASE?		
B22 Employment Discrimination (F)	(V) Yes () No		
The following is a full, itemized and detailed stateme money damages. For this form, disregard double or			
TORT CLAIMS			
Total Doctor expenses Total chiropractic expenses Total physical therapy expenses Total other expenses (describe) B. Documented lost wages and compensation to date C. Documented property damages to date D. Reasonably anticipated future medical and hospital expenses	subtotal \$ Subtotal \$ Sector policies Plaintiff TOTAL \$ 250,000 T CLAIMS		
PLEASE IDENTIFY, BY CASE NUMBER, NAME AND COUNTY COURT DEPARTMENT	TOTAL \$		
"I hereby certify that I have complied with the requirements Dispute Resolution (SJC Rule 1:18) requiring that I provide resolution services and discuss with them the advantages a	my clients with information about court-connected dispute and disadvantages of the various methods."		
Signature of Attorney of Record	DATE: 7 4/ (35		
AOTC-6 mtc005-11/99	A TRUE COPY ATTEST		

DEPUTY ASSISTANT CLERK
Cynthia a angli

(TO PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY: Please Circle Type of Action Involved: - TORT -MOTOR VEHICLE TORT -CONTRACT - EQUITABLE RELIEF - (OTHER)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX, ss.

Crystal A. Atherton and

SUPERIOR COURT

....., Plaintiff(s)

City of Beredy, William F. Sumon, Jr. and John Dunn

* in their individual and office capacities

SUMMONS

To the above named Defendant: John Donn, in his individual a deficial

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Jordan L. Shapper of Shapper of the not plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 640 Main Street 02148 complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the

day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You are also required to file your answer to the complaint in the office of the Clerk of this court at 37 Feet Sheet Sales MA 61470 either before service upon plaintiff's attorney or within a reasonable time thereafter.

Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13 (a), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

> Esquire, at Salem, the WITNESS, S , in the year of our Lord two thousand day of

> > Thomas H. Discold

NOTES:

- 1. This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. When more than one defendant is involved, the names of all defendants should appear in the caption. If a separate summons is used for each defendant, each should be addressed to the particular defendant.

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(TO PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY: Please Circle Type of Action Involved: - TORT - MOTOR VEHICLE TORT -CONTRACT - EQUITABLE RELIEF - (OTHER,)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ESSEX, ss.

CIVIL ACTION

Robert W. Atheron and Plaintiff(s)

Cty of Beroly, William F. Scalon, Jr. + - A John Donn Defendant(s)

An this individual of official (a) 2-cities

SUMMONS

To the above named Defendant: Minn F. Simlar, Jr. in his official it individual controlly

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Joan L. Shappe & Shappe & Herer plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 640 Min Steet Malden, 194 02148 complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the

day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You are also required to file your answer to the complaint in the office of the Clerk of this court at 34 Feder Sheet Silvery of 1970 either before service upon plaintiff's attorney or within a reasonable time thereafter.

Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13 (a), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

Barbara J. Rouse

WITNESS, S Esquire, at Salem, the , in the year of our Lord two thousand day of

NOTES:

1. This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure.

2. When more than one defendant is involved, the names of all defendants should appear in the caption. If a separate summons is used for each defendant, each should be addressed to the particular defendant.

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Thomas H. Discold

(TO PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY: Please Circle Type of Action Involved: - TORT - MOTOR VEHICLE TORT - CONTRACT - EQUITABLE RELIEF - OTHER)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX, ss.

Crystel A. Atherton and
Robert W. Atherton

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION No. 5-0654

..., Plaintiff(s)

City of Benerly, William F. Schon, Jr., and John Donn's, Defendant(s)

SUMMONS

To the above named Defendant: City of Bessely

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Jordan L. Shappe of Shappe of Herder, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 640 Mem Sheet, Malden 17A 02148, an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You are also required to file your answer to the complaint in the office of the Clerk of this court at 34 Federal Shappe of the Scheman A C1970 either before service upon plaintiff's attorney or within a reasonable time thereafter.

Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13 (a), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

Barbara J. Rouse

WITNESS, Sezanive v. Dervicerno, Esquire, at Salem, the day of , in the year of our Lord two thousand

Tronus H. Wiscold

NOTES

1. This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure.

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DEPUTY ASSISTANT CLERK

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Case 1:05-cv-113@ohhiWonWealtheof3Massach@setts05 County of Essex

County of Essex The Superior Court

CIVIL DOCKET# ESCV2005-00654

Page 55 of 55

Atherton et al

VS.

Beverly et al

ORDER OF TRANSFER (remand)

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 231, Section 102C, as amended, and in accordance with Superior Court Rule 29, the above referenced case is

Copy of Petition for Removal to the United States District Court filed by City of Beverly, William F Scanlon in his official and individual capacity, John Dunn in his official and individual capacity

Dated at Salem, Massachusetts this 28th day of June, 2005.

Thomas H. Driscoll Jr., Clerk of the Courts

Assistant Clerk

Telephone: (978) 744-5500 ext. 414

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DEPUTY ASSISTANT CLERK

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